

APPENDIX E, PART 7

GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA



FIRE MANAGEMENT STEP- UP PLAN (SOP 37)

ACTION CLASS	FIRE DANGER (NFDRS RATING)	BURNING INDEX	ACTIONS
I	LOW	0-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Optimal Staffing: Minimum of two (2) firefighters on duty (one FF must be at least ENOP qualified). ➤ Fire personnel conduct preparedness operations during regular tour of duty hours. ➤ Conduct daily fire weather and safety briefings. ➤ Maintain engines in fire-ready condition. ➤ Perform apparatus inspections and report inoperative units to FMO by 1000 hours. ➤ Deliver daily staffing report and fire danger rating to FMO, GGNRA Dispatch, Marin County Fire, and Mendocino N.F. dispatch by 1000 hours. ➤ Ensure PPE and IA gear are immediately available.
II	MODERATE	19-27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Includes all actions for Action Class I. ➤ Optimal Staffing: Minimum of three (3) firefighters on duty (staffing must include at least one ENOP and one, separate, ICT5).

ACTION CLASS	FIRE DANGER (NFDRS RATING)	BURNING INDEX	ACTIONS
III	HIGH	28-33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Includes all actions for Action Class II. ➤ Optimal Staffing: Minimum of four (4) firefighters on duty (staffing must include one ENGB and one ICT4). ➤ Engine captain places firefighters on two-hour, after-hour call-back. ➤ GGNRA Dispatch will broadcast the "High" Fire Danger Broadcast at 1000 hours.* ➤ All open fires prohibited except for portable gas stoves and charcoal grills. ➤ Issued open fire permits are voided. ➤ "High Fire Danger" signs posted at pre-designated locations by fire personnel and ranger staff. ➤ "No Fires" signs posted at pre-designated locations.

ACTION CLASS	FIRE DANGER (NFDRS RATING)	BURNING INDEX	ACTIONS
IV	VERY HIGH	34-37	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Includes all actions for Action Class III. ➤ Optimal Staffing: Minimum of five (5) firefighters on duty. (staffing must include one ENGB, one ENOP, and one ICT4) ➤ Coordinate with PORE Fire Mgmt. Office on the distribution of BAN suppression resources. ➤ Chief Ranger briefed on situation and staffing. ➤ Fire personnel may be called to work extended hours and/or weekends at FMO's discretion. ➤ FMO may request additional staffing by red-carded personnel from other park divisions. ➤ Establish funding for extended and/or additional staffing though appropriate emergency account. ➤ Engine crew will patrol for smokes at least once in the afternoon hours. ➤ Engine crew stays within a five minute hike from vehicles after 1000 hours. ➤ Projects may be postponed if they pose an unacceptable fire risk. ➤ Firefighters placed on one-hour after-hours call-back. ➤ Park Dispatch will broadcast the "Very High" Fire Danger Broadcast at 1000 hours.** ➤ All open fires prohibited except for portable gas stoves.

ACTION CLASS	FIRE DANGER (NFDRS RATING)	BURNING INDEX	ACTIONS
V	EXTREME	38+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Includes all actions for Action Class IV. ➤ All firefighters will wear full PPE. ➤ Optimal Staffing: Minimum of six (6) firefighters on duty (staffing must include one ICT4, one ENGB, one ENOP, and one FFT1). ➤ Physical fitness training cancelled. ➤ Park Dispatch will broadcast the “ Extreme” Fire Danger Broadcast at 1000 hours.*** ➤ FMO recommends road, campground, and/or picnic area closures to the Chief Ranger. ➤ Post “Extreme Fire Danger” signs at pre-designated locations. ➤ Prohibit the use of any equipment that could provide a potential source of ignition. ➤ Prohibit all outdoor “Hot Work” permits.

* High Fire Danger Rating Broadcast: “Standby for today’s fire danger information. Today’s fire danger rating is **HIGH**. Action class is 3. All open fires are prohibited today except for charcoal grills and self-contained, portable gas stoves, which are allowed only in designated campground and picnic areas. The Fire Management Office has Engine 1166/1176 staffed today with “X” firefighters. This concludes today’s fire danger broadcast.”

** Very High Fire Danger Rating Broadcast: “Standby for today’s fire danger information. Today’s fire danger rating is **Very High**. Action class is 4. All fire personnel and red-carded law enforcement personnel are required to have their wildland fire gear immediately available. All fires, including cooking fires and charcoal grills, are prohibited today except for self-contained, portable gas stoves, which are allowed only in designated campground and picnic areas. The Fire Management Office has Engine 1166/1176 staffed today with “X” firefighters. This concludes today’s fire danger broadcast.”

*** Extreme Fire Danger Rating Broadcast: “Standby for today’s fire danger information. Today’s fire danger rating is **Extreme**. (If appropriate) The National Weather Service has issued a Red Flag Warning. Action class is 5. All fire personnel and red-carded law enforcement personnel are required to have their wildland fire gear immediately available. All fires, including cooking fires and

charcoal grills, are prohibited today except for self-contained, portable gas stoves, which are allowed only in designated campground and picnic areas. Smoking on trails is prohibited. The Fire Management Office has Engine 1166/1176 staffed today with "X" firefighters. All fire management personnel are to remain on duty until further notification. This concludes today's fire weather broadcast".

NOTE: Certain factors can potentially contribute to increased fire activity. At the discretion of the Fire Management Officer or, alternatively, the pre-designated Fire Duty Officer, the following conditions may increase the Action Class to level IV (Very High) or Action Class V (Extreme) (per RM-18):

- Extreme wind conditions (e.g. sustained 20-foot wind speed in excess of 20 mph)
- Red Flag Warnings issued by the National Weather Service
- Weather conditions which approximate local thresholds documented on Bay Area National Parks Fire Danger Pocket Cards (i.e. a combination of any two or more of the following factors: 20-foot winds speeds of 15+ mph, relative humidity (of less than 25%, and temperature in excess of 80 degrees Fahrenheit).
- Predicted or observed lightning activity level (LAL) of 4, 5, or 6
- Predicted burn index in exceedance of the 90th percentile (B.I.=24+)
- Periods of unusually high park visitation (e.g. National holidays and special events)

Golden Gate National Recreation Area fire management personnel base management responses to observed and predicted fire danger, including preparedness (pre-suppression) activities and minimum staffing levels, on the Step-up Plan (SOP 37). The Step-up Plan is a policy-compliant plan which provides a documented procedure designed to direct incremental preparedness actions in response to increasing fire danger. The Step-up Plan's five Action Classes are based upon a range of burning indices (BI) predicted daily, using the National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS). As the burning index increases with escalating fire danger, preparedness activities and staffing levels subsequently increase. NFDRS outputs can be obtained from the Weather Information Management System (WIMS). Additionally, the Fire Management Officer, or alternatively, the pre-designated Fire Duty Officer, may elect to move the Action Class to a higher level. The criteria for doing so are defined in the Step-up Plan. The Step-up Plan will be in operation from approximately June 1 through November 15 each year.

